

# THE ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION

49 WEST 49th STREET, NEW YORK 20

## BIOLOGICAL AND MEDICAL RESEARCH

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May 8, 1957

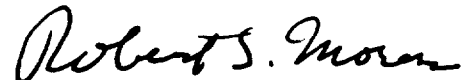
Dear Dr. Lederberg:

Your letter of April 24 in regard to possible renewal of your present four-year grant catches us a bit short. As a matter of fact, I had suggested to my colleague, Dr. Anderson, that he discuss the question with you when he passed through Madison last winter. It turned out, however, that you were away and Dr. Anderson gained the impression that you would probably be spending the whole year, rather than three months, in Australia. On this basis, we had rather crossed off the possibility of renewing a grant from our program of activities for the spring. At the moment, I am in a great rush trying to get things finished before leaving for Europe next week. Dr. Anderson will be returning from Japan about that time and I hope he can look into the possibility of getting some decision by the end of June. Since the future plans for the development of genetics at Wisconsin seem to be somewhat in a state of flux, it may be best to temporize for the present.

Perhaps it would be well to say that the group here feels very keenly the increasing desirability of husbanding the Foundation's funds for purposes for which funds are not reasonably easily available from other sources. In drawing up plans for financing the new department of medical genetics, it would be nice if you and Dean Bowers could bear this consideration in mind and limit the request to this Foundation to items which cannot appropriately be covered by grants from other organizations.

I hope you will understand that these somewhat stand-offish remarks are based entirely on general considerations and that they reflect in no way the opinion of any of us here on the quality of the work of your group. I am sure you realize that the Foundation has been more than proud in being able to contribute financially to the outstanding series of investigations for which you have been responsible and that several of us have a very special interest in them because of their bearing on the Foundation's own long-standing interest on the evolutionary behavior of viruses in the field.

Sincerely yours,



Robert S. Morison, M.D.

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